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Docket 222

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

24 MAR 1993

POLICY & PLANNING
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

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Honorable Jim Chapman
House of Representatives

APR 13 1993

226 C-1111 House Office Building

Congressional

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CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
03/05/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
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TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Jim Chapman	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB / LM 3-9-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
03/05/93	3/9/93		

REMARKS:

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4301

March 1, 1993

PRB
92-235

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS
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ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
VA, HUD, AND INDEPENDENT
AGENCIES

1062 DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND POLICY

MAR 01 1993

February 8, 1993

Mr. Jim Chapman
236 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515-4301

Dear Mr. Chapman:

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the FCC. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the range of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use therefore increasing the risk of accidents and liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the fifty frequencies available for use by model aviation, only nineteen will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of operators, bystanders and property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

Please understand that many model airplanes are quite large with wing spans up to ten feet. Some models weigh as much as thirty to forty pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more importantly, they are capable of causing property damage, injury or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models as well as our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band